

3. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid sequence of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid encodes a protein comprising an amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

4. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid sequence of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid comprises a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

5. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid sequence of claim 1, wherein the nucleic acid sequence hybridizes under stringent hybridization conditions to a nucleic acid having a sequence or complementary sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, wherein said stringent hybridization conditions are selected from the group consisting of (1) 0.015 M sodium chloride / 0.0015 M sodium citrate / 0.1% sodium dodecyl sulfate at 50°C; (2) 50% formamide with 0.1% bovine serum albumin / 0.1% Ficoll / 0.1% polyvinylpyrrolidone / 50 mM sodium phosphate buffer at pH 6.5 with 750 mM sodium chloride and 75 mM sodium citrate at 42°C; and (3) 50% formamide, 5X SSC (0.75 M sodium chloride, 0.75 M sodium citrate), 50 mM sodium phosphate (pH 6.8), 0.1% sodium pyrophosphate, 5X Denhardt's solution, 50 µg/mL sonicated salmon sperm DNA, 0.1% sodium dodecyl sulfate and 10% dextran sulfate at 42°C, with washes at 42°C in 0.2 X SSC and 50% formamide at 55°C, followed by a wash of 0.1X SSC containing EDTA at 55°C.

6. (Amended) An expression vector comprising a nucleic acid encoding *A. fumigatus* cofilin protein, wherein the protein comprises a sequence having greater than 90% amino acid sequence identity to SEQ ID NO:2 as measured using a sequence comparison algorithm and binds monomeric actin.

12. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising a sequence which has greater than 90% sequence identity with nucleotide SEQ ID NO:1 and which encodes a protein that binds monomeric actin.

Please add the following claims:

13. An isolated nucleic acid of Claim 12, wherein said nucleic acid comprises a sequence which has greater than 95% sequence identity with nucleotide SEQ ID NO:1.